



WIN CITYJET FLIGHTS

COMPETITION – PAGE 7



Inside



Just do it yourself

From veg on a ledge to needle and thread, we show you how

P78



Laugh a minute

Robert Llewellyn on electric cars

P6

Andrew Maxwell on feisty banter

P11

Have FAITH



Comedian, writer and co-director David Baddiel is deep in rehearsals for culture clash comedy *The Infidel: The Musical*. As the curtain prepares to rise on this crowdfunded venture in Stratford he, and the cast, tell us why he decided to put his cult movie on the stage – and add songs. **Full story / Page 12**

235 bodies remain unidentified and unclaimed. What goes wrong?

All the lonely people

Rob.Virtue
@wharf.co.uk

The tattoo on his left hand simply read “786”. In his wallet, along with a fake Italian driving licence, was a photograph of a woman.

The Asian man in his 20s was found washed up in the Thames

at Ballast Quay, just south of the Isle of Dogs on January 10, 2011. His body had been in the river for seven days.

His real name remains a mystery as do the circumstances which led him into the river. Somewhere, someone must be missing him and wondering why he disappeared.

There are 235 deaths currently



listed as unidentified in the capital from records dating back to the 1960s.

The database by the UK Missing Persons Bureau shows bodies are found all over London, but east of the City and along the Thames features repeatedly.

No-one knows who they are but it's easy to presume most

slipped through the net and ended up on the streets.

Keith Fennett, chief executive of charity Anchor House, which operates a homeless hostel in Canning Town, said the reason for this location arose from a cycle of poverty.

“The national hotspot is London,” he said.

Continued on Page 4

PARTY VENUE SPECIAL 16 pages of ideas to help you organise the office Christmas bash



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21C SATURDAY
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22C SUNDAY
Mostly sunny

21C MONDAY
Partly cloudy

TRAVEL

TUBE & DLR
DLR and Jubilee line are fine. Overground is shut from Surrey Quays to West Croydon and Crystal Palace.

ROADS
No problems.

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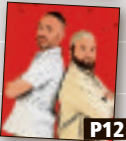
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ESTABLISHED 1998

Agenda

Flight of fancy lands with a bump

Unless you have wealth, webbing or feathers, there is little glamour left in air travel.

The humiliation of the consumer is one that no other service would demand save perhaps Apple with an iOS upgrade or the NHS and its proctology (with whom, tellingly, air travel has a weird kinship).

And yet, for the 15 years I have lived in the Docklands, pseudo-jetset luxury has been tantalisingly close.

To fly from London City Airport. I could still be in bed while the pilots were warming the engines. I could have another brew while the frequent flyers were tackling Canning Town.

SPIRAL NOTEBOOK



GILES BROADBENT

It was a dream set to be fulfilled last week. I ambled to check-in, minutes to spare, with the superior smile of a shower-fresh somnambulant. Uncrumpled, unfrazzled, calm.

Fifteen years I had waited...

...Then two more hours. All flights grounded because of fog. I found a floor tile near the back door of a sandwich shop, sank down and closed my eyes. Heathrow all over again.

I cursed my luck, the weather and the Wright Brothers and found only fleeting pleasure when, hours later, I soared away – crumpled, frazzled and stressed – in a Fokker F50.

If it is any consolation, my return

flight was an experience that would repair any dejected soul.

We banked, looped over the City – Tower Bridge, TS Tenacious – then Canary Wharf – *I can see my office!* – the Kelly Brook curve of the Island. The O2, Royal Docks – *I can see my flat!*

He who is tired of London should take a gander from 1,600ft as Samuel Johnson would have written before his tray table was stowed and his seat returned to an upright position.

Then – bliss – from baggage claim to bubbling kettle in 15 minutes. I'm living the dream people. Albeit later than scheduled.

Angela Clarke is away.

London Eye

IMAGES: REUTERS



Volunteers plant ceramic poppies for art installation *Blood Swept Lands And Seas of Red* at the Tower of London. The evolving art installation, which will be completed on the November 11, will create a commemoration for the centenary of the First World War.

London gallery
Page 84

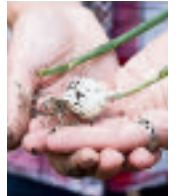
Advertising for the new Pink Floyd album *The Endless River* is installed on a four sided billboard on the South Bank. The album cover was designed by 18-year-old Egyptian digital artist Ahmed Emad Eldin and the album is released on November 10.



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Food

Get those fingers dirty and grow your own food



80

Fashion

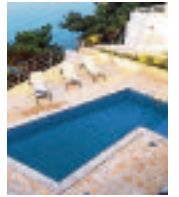
Sew and sew – that's the advice for DIY dresser Libby Rose



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Travel

5 European city destinations, 5 perfect hotels to act as a base



Corrections & Clarifications

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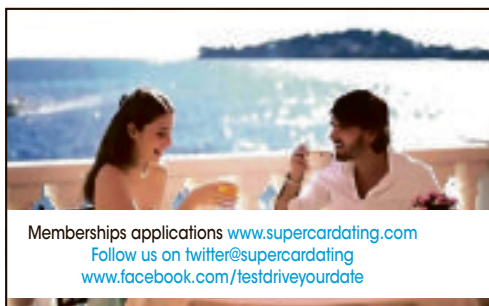
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IMAGE OF THE WEEK



British photographer James Woodend has won the prestigious title of Astronomy Photographer of the Year 2014. As well as securing the £1,500 top prize, his image of the aurora over Iceland takes pride of place in the current exhibition of winning photographs at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich

NEWS IN BRIEF

Around east London

Tube stations hit by staff cutbacks

EAST LONDON The full extent of staff cuts on the Tube have been disclosed and east London will be suffering disproportionately, says Labour's John Biggs.

Staffing figures for Tower Hamlets will be cut by 33%, while Newham will lose 55%.

London Assembly member Mr Biggs, said: "It beggars belief that with Tube fares due to rise by 2.5%, Mayor Boris Johnson has the nerve to cut front line staffing levels at stations."

£4.5m scheme to build new theatre

STRATFORD Theatre Royal Stratford East is looking to build a new theatre – the Red Crate – in the Cultural Quarter.

The sister building to the National Theatre's temporary space will open in 2015 if the £4.5million fundraising campaign is successful.

Sited next to an empty catering unit, opposite the existing theatre, the Red Crate would offer 220 seats as well as a new cafe and bar.

Artistic director Kerry Michael said the space would answer a demand for new work.

Concrete plant idea collapses into dust

PLANNING

Port of London denies decision is a setback for river, writes **Rob Virtue**

River bosses have denied a scheme to reactivate wharves along the Thames is in jeopardy after Central Government rejected a proposal to turn an east London site into a concrete batching plant.

The Communities Secretary backed a planning inspectorate report against the Orchard Wharf proposal next to the East India Dock basin because of its impact on nearby homes in Virginia Quay.

The scheme had been twice turned down by Tower Hamlets councillors against the advice of officers.

It came 17 years after the then Mayor of London Ken Livingstone placed the site on the "Safeguarded Wharves" list to keep it as a base for transporting freight along the river.

His aim was to keep the commercial river alive as well as reduce road traffic.

The Port of London Authority, which backed the concrete plant, said the wharf was still earmarked for commercial industrial use.

The PLA was now decided to buy up the land to keep it safe for future commercial use.

The PLA's director of planning and environment Jim Trimmer said: "Over the last five years we've seen use of the river to move freight grow from two million tonnes a year to five million tonnes in 2013.

"That kind of growth is only possible if you've got the wharves on which to handle the cargo.

"That's why the policy of safeguarding wharves is so important and why we welcome this important step forward. We can now focus on getting this wharf back into use."

London Concrete and Aggregate Industries argued Orchard Wharf was the best site they had found on the Thames for its batching plant.

But in the appeal Communities Secretary Eric Pickles agreed with previous decisions, which said the site, close to residential property at Virginia Quay and Trinity Buoy Wharf, was not suitable.

Conservative councillor Peter Golds, a long-term campaigner against the development, said: "The idea of concrete batching in the immediate vicinity of an area zoned for new housing was always wrong."

But Mr Pickles said he would not rule out a more suitable batching plant for the Orchard Wharf site in the future.

"There is every reason to suppose that reactivation, including a batching plant, could be achieved with a better design and layout, ideally by including the same extent of plant and storage but, if not, through scaling it down," he said.

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A runner dressed in gorilla-themed outfits runs through the City of London on Saturday. Hundreds of participants dressed as gorillas took part in the 11th annual Great Gorilla Run, raising funds to help save the endangered species.



There's no stopping us now

A CHARITY abseil saw 100 brave souls descend 541ft down a tower in the City.

The event, at Broadgate Tower on Saturday, saw £30,000 raised for Richard House Children's Hospice in Beckton.

The charity reported a 100% success rate in people going through with the challenge.

One of those, Richard House CEO Peter Ellis, said: "It was terrifying but fantastic to see so many people respond in support of Richard House,

overcoming their fears to raise money and awareness about the work that the hospice does."

Another, Mel De Noronha of the Financial Ombudsman in Canary Wharf said it was a daunting challenge.

She said: "It was quite nerve-racking but I remembered the Richard House video and that got rid of all the fear, thinking of the smiling faces of the children. I wanted to help them smile even more."

Go to richardhouse.org.uk.



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'TV has helped to foster a hardening of attitudes'

From Page One

"You get gangmasters bringing in people on a regular basis, immigrants head to London, and the East End has historically been a point of entry.

"Then they get trapped in the poverty of these boroughs, which also has high instances of offending. And if those people are not at Anchor House then where are they?"

Working at the east London centre for a decade, Keith has seen a number of cases where people have died or been close to dying in similar circumstances.

The charity now establishes the identification of every person it comes into contact with.

"We did that because a few years ago we discovered one of our residents was a heroin user and he disappeared," said Keith.

"After a few days we called the police and they made inquiries but nothing happened. We then contacted his family who called the police again.

"They finally found him in the mortuary at Newham Hospital where he had been laying dead for two weeks.

"Society doesn't take the same consideration for someone they believe is homeless or an immigrant that they would for me and you."



Anchor House's Keith Fernett

How do these people slip through the net?

"Society doesn't take the same consideration for someone they believe is homeless or an immigrant."

And, according to Keith, it's a problem which is growing. This, in part, is due to the negative coverage given towards those in poverty through TV programmes such as *Benefits Street*, he

Canary Wharf workers are being encouraged to sleep rough for one night in West India Quay in aid of young homeless people.

Centrepoint's annual Sleep Out on November 6 is held to demonstrate the situation 80,000 homeless youths are in every year.

Go to centrepoint.org.uk.

says, which has contributed to society "hardening" its views towards those on the streets.

The tragic result is isolation and, far too frequently, an anonymous death.

The lifestyle of those living on the streets also dramatically increases the risk of a premature death, very often in east London's vast waterways.

"Only yesterday I had to talk very harshly to an east European man who is an alcoholic and I told him 'if you carry on you'll be found dead in the Thames' because he'll lose control of himself and won't know where he is," said Keith.

"We've had people who were growing up in the East End who 20 years ago would swim in the Royal Docks. And someone decided to continue that, in November, days after leaving hospital with a heart illness. How close must he have come to dying?"

The figures of unidentified deaths is only likely to increase as the capital suffers the effects of a housing crisis at a time of a major population growth.

Anchor House currently has 190 bed spaces but 606 referrals from the authorities in what Keith calls a huge rise of people sleeping on the streets.

"It's affecting people from all walks of life now," said Keith.

"We found a mother and her two children living under the Bow Roundabout recently. They were English. These people are out there."

CASE STUDIES

■ A white male was found dead in the Thames by Pipers Wharf in Greenwich on May 6, 2008. He was aged between 50 and 65. Traces of prescription drugs believed to cause suicidal thoughts when mixed with other drugs were found in his bloodstream.

■ It was a clear August day in 2007, when the blue suited man

in his 40s collapsed and died on a street in Greenwich Peninsula.

His only possessions were £1.51 in cash and a yellow band on his wedding finger. A post mortem found he had 2kg of heroin in his stomach. Police suspected he was a drugs mule from Nigeria as he also had an airline baggage label in his pocket.

News

Four-year quest for justice is complete

COURT

Rob.Virtue
@wharf.co.uk

A FOUR-YEAR search for justice by the family of Ibrahim Ghrib finally received some reward after two men were found guilty of his manslaughter.

The 20-year-old and his girlfriend were attacked at Shadwell Basin and in the struggle he ended up in the freezing water.

Despite heroic attempts by passers-by Ibrahim drowned in the March 2010 incident and his body was not recovered until the next morning.

On Friday, Amran Chowdhury, 27, and Misba Chowdhury 23, both of Whitney Avenue in Ilford, were convicted of manslaughter. Amran's girlfriend Steffi Rai, 27, of Holloway Circus Queensway in Birmingham, was convicted of perverting the course of justice for helping him evade arrest.

On the evening of the killing, Amran left Rai's flat overlooking the basin and



Amran, left, and Misba Chowdhury and Steffi Rai, centre

together with his brother Misba confronted Ibrahim and his girlfriend for a reason that has never emerged.

Ibrahim's girlfriend was hit in the face with a bottle, while a group surrounded Ibrahim. As she went to help him she was hit again, briefly losing consciousness.

She could hear Ibrahim shouting from the water as the group ran off. Two men went to help and made their

way into the basin but were beaten by the cold. An autopsy failed to confirm whether he had been deliberately pushed into the water.

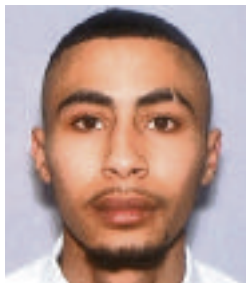
Misba was arrested while his brother handed himself in three days later.

Rai denied knowing about the death despite being seen watching it from her third floor balcony.

All three cases were initially dropped due to insufficient evidence but the case was reviewed and the Crown Prosecution Service decided to push for a trial.

Det Con Darrell Etchells, from the Homicide and Major Crime Command, said: "No motive has ever been discovered for the attack but I hope Ibrahim's family can find some peace in the fact that the jury are satisfied the Chowdhury brothers were responsible for his death."

A date for sentencing is yet to be confirmed.



Ibrahim Ghrib's body was found in the water

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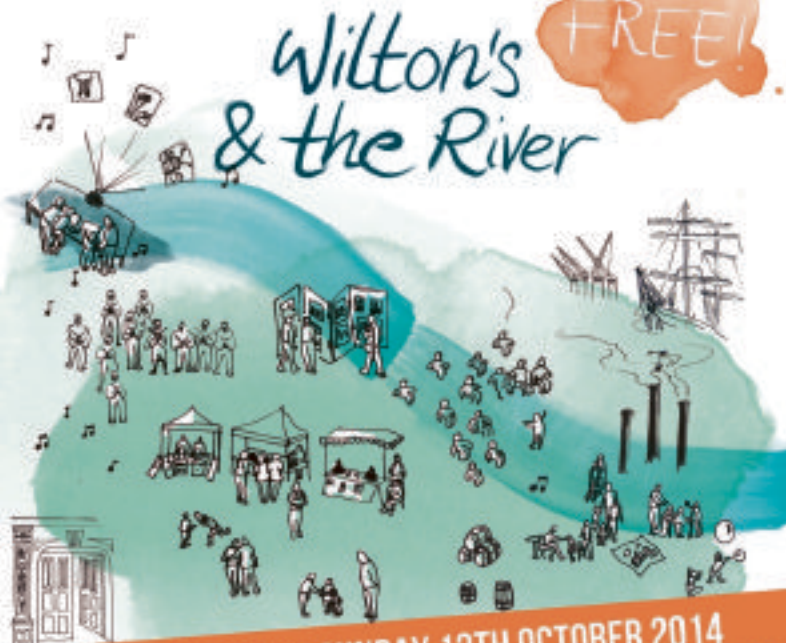
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What's On / From Page 11

SCENE IN TIME

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News

BUSINESS

CWG workers to get Living Wage

WORKERS within Canary Wharf Group will now be guaranteed the London Living Wage.

The firm becomes the first UK property and construction company to sign up to the scheme, which promises staff minimum hourly earnings of £8.80.

CWG's chief executive and chairman Sir George Iacobescu said: "The decision to pay a Living Wage underlines our appreciation of each and every member of staff and the communities around all our London development sites from which many of our colleagues come."

The capital's Living Wage, which is set by the Greater London Authority, means employees and contractors are paid more than the national minimum wage of £6.31.

Living Wage Foundation's director Rhys Moore said: "This brings the Living Wage to a new sector and to some of the most iconic development sites in the capital."

"We anticipate that the leadership this commitment has shown will encourage others in the development and construction industry to consider how they reward the lowest paid members of their workforce."

Old folk see how Island has altered

A WARTIME singalong has been hosted in the unusual surrounds of a Canary Wharf legal firm.

Clifford Chance welcomed 56 senior citizens from Stepney Jewish Community Centre and Age UK Islington. The singing was led by the Pearly Queen of Bow, Vicky Grove, who is an HR adviser at the firm.

The company's head of community outreach Cathy Jones said: "Many used to live on the Isle of Dogs, and they're interested in seeing how the place has changed."

INTERVIEW

Former petrolhead (and robot) talks about his new love of electric cars

Rob Virtue
@wharf.co.uk

Somewhere, in the flicker of an advertising guru's mind, *Red Dwarf's* mechanoid Kryten is promoting electric cars.

His alter-ego Robert Llewellyn believes the robot-with-a-conscience would jump at the chance to own one.

"I could see him in a Tesla Model S which has a driving range of 280 miles, which he'd love," said Llewellyn.

"There have always been *Red Dwarf* scenes discussing his sockets but there has never been one where Kryten is recharging, which I've always pushed for, so I imagine he would have some form of energy storage system."

"He'd use that in the car through some sort of plug-in seat, where he could keep the car running."

"As a car owner he would be desperate to tidy it all the time. And he'd be extremely environmentally conscious in a very neurotic way."

Llewellyn, presenter of *Scrapheap Challenge* and *How Do They Do It?* is a fan of the new growing technology.

On Friday, he's bringing his informative, challenging and funny show, *Electric Cars Are Rubbish Aren't They?* to the Albany at Canada Water.

Rather than attempting to convince the audience to embrace non-petrol vehicles, he's looking to explain a few facts.

Llewellyn, formerly a self-confessed petrolhead, now owns only electric vehicles.

He said: "About 13 years ago I would see little signs, such as electric bikes appearing. And then one day I got a lift home from *Scrapheap Challenge* in a Toyota Prius. I'd never heard of it before and was stunned at how quiet it was. It felt like it was being towed."

On impulse Robert bought his own electric hybrid Prius, ditching his "gas-guzzling" Golf R32.

"I found it life-changing but some of my manly engineering mates said I'd turned up in a 'poof of milk float'. I'd just like to add I don't agree with such homophobic language. And my masculinity



remained intact." He

went on to owe the car his life after he was hit by a vehicle going about 50mph. Robert was protected from much more serious injury by an air bag in the door.

Now owner of a full electric car, the Nissan Leaf, he would recommend the move to electric vehicles but said people were already heading in that direction.

Llewellyn has been performing

Just take a Leaf out of my book



Robert Llewellyn will be tackling the taboos of electric motoring

KRYTEN'S VIEW



Kryten: I have served my human masters, now I can look forward to my reward in silicon heaven.

Lister: Silicon what?

Kryten: The electronic afterlife. It's the gathering place for the souls of all electronic equipment. Robots, toasters, calculators. It's our final resting place.

Lister: That is completely whacko Jacko. There is no such thing as Silicon Heaven.

Kryten: Then where do all the calculators go?

Lister: They don't go anywhere. They just die.

Kryten: Surely you believe that God is in all things? Aren't you a pantheist?

Lister: Yeah, but I just don't think it applies to kitchen utensils. I'm not a frying pantheist. Machines do not have souls. Computers and calculators do not have an afterlife. You don't get hairdryers with tiny little wings, sitting on clouds and playing harps.

Kryten: But of course you do. For is it not written in the Electronic Bible, "The Iron shall lie down with the Lamp". *Red Dwarf: The Last Day (1989)*

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CRIME

POLICE seized two cars last week at a "Fast and Furious" gathering in Beckton.

Officers from Newham Council's enforcement partnership team carried out the operation at Claps Gate Lane retail park where more than 300 vehicles gathered.

Clr Unmesh Desai, cabinet member for crime and anti-social behaviour, said: "We are aware

that there are car enthusiasts who like to gather to display their modified cars, but unfortunately there is often anti-social behaviour associated with these events carried out by a minority of individuals.

"Let this be a warning to drivers of modified cars. We are aware of these events in our borough and we will be back to crack down on any anti-social behaviour and seize cars that are

being driven recklessly, illegally or without insurance."

The two cars seized on September 13 were being driven without insurance.

Warnings were issued to another nine drivers who were acting irresponsibly.

In 2010, a 23-year-old driver was killed when his car hit a wall near Cyprus DLR station during a night meeting of car enthusiasts.

Rachel Bishop

Cars seized as drivers gather for Fast & Furious rally



One of the seized cars

WIN pair of CityJet tickets

The Wharf has teamed up with CityJet to offer one lucky reader a pair of return flights to a European destination of their choice.

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For your chance to win two tickets to anywhere across the CityJet network, simply fill in your details at cityjet.com/wharf.

Terms and conditions apply. Go to cityjet.com/wharf for full competition terms and conditions.



Paris, Amsterdam and Florence – just three of the 13 European destinations served by CityJet

NEWS IN BRIEF

Around east London

School opens its doors to cameras

TOWER HAMLETS A school for boys with behavioural problems will be the focus of a Channel 5 documentary.

Ian Mikardo High School in Tower Hamlets will feature in the two-part show *Too Tough To Teach?* which will be aired on Monday and October 6 at 9pm.

Headteacher Claire Lillis said: "I wanted to show that early intervention can make a dramatic improvement to the lives of vulnerable young people."

Cyclists invest in charity challenge

CANARY WHARF Colleagues from Credit Suisse are in the middle of a 1,000km cycle from London to Zurich in aid of Parkinson's UK.

The team set off from their offices on Tuesday and aim to complete the ride in five days.

Ben Jervis, 36, said his stepfather suffered from the illness.

He said: "I have seen how difficult life with Parkinson's can be. Some people know about the physical symptoms, but the emotional impact as well."

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Notebook

In the desert of my social diary, two VIP events collide

For my birthday my friend announced that she had bought me tickets to see Kate Bush at Hammersmith.

At first I was speechless, unable to believe what I was hearing. This stunned silence was soon broken by one almighty squeal that lasted rather longer than was necessary.

I have been a fan of La Bush since first watching her as a little girl on *Top Of The Pops*, performing *Wuthering Heights*.

Her otherworldly voice and all that spinning around in a white nighty-cum-wedding dress had me transfixed.

She didn't quite make my bedroom wall – that was reserved for Debbie Harry – but she did feature heavily in my early record collection.

Later on, her *Hounds Of Love* album would be the soundtrack to one particular love story that still haunts me. The album was and still is one of my all time favourites.

We were excitedly talking about the gig, my friend telling me how she had managed to get hold of these gold dust tickets. Front row, too! She then mentioned the date and how we'd grab

WORKING MUM



TABITHA RONSON

food first and that the tickets were part of a special package that included a Champagne reception.

Rewind. What was the date again?

"I couldn't get them for your actual birthday," my friend said. "But this way it means your birthday celebrations will just be extended."

The date? I wanted to cry. I have a non-existent social diary so how could I possibly have something that would clash with this wonderful opportunity.

"It's my cousin's wedding!"

I asked my colleagues, my friends and

random people in supermarket queues, about what I should do. The consensus was overwhelmingly in favour of ditching the wedding for Kate.

On Friday, I watched my beautiful cousin get married. There was no way I couldn't be there. I did however shed a tear, not only for how radiant she looked but also for the fact that I was missing probably one of the best music experiences in my life.

Working Mum, in the world's of Kate Bush's This Woman's Work: "Oh, darling, make it go away. Just make it go away now."

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BUSINESS IS GREAT
BRITAIN

POLITICAL VIEWPOINT

By John Biggs

Efficiency is a necessary but cruel driver

Transport for London is planning to close nearly all Underground ticket offices, including Canary Wharf, as the world uses Oysters and other contactless tickets.

It says there will still be staff on stations to assist passengers and few of us will notice the difference. This may for many be true – for fit healthy non-vulnerable travellers it will be no big deal. But I do worry about those who need information and help.

I don't want us to pay for unnecessary jobs. And nowadays we live in a world where there is little sympathy for public sector workers, unless of course they are "essential" – teachers, nurses, police officers – although even

Even essential jobs have seen cuts to reduce public deficit

those sectors have seen cuts as well.

Maybe we cannot afford them – we do after all need to manage the public deficit. The requirement to find efficiencies is a good driver of change in any organisation, particularly if it wants to compete, or is spending your money.

But sooner or later, as class sizes grow, as hospital waiting lists get longer, as the helpline you call takes even longer to be answered, we will need to sit down and work out again what our priorities are. That day will come. But it will be a while yet.

Meanwhile, our Mayor Boris Johnson is running off to Parliament.

Will he save us? With Scotland, Syria, Europe all demanding attention, let's hope someone can. I'm not convinced it's him though.

London Assembly Member, City & East



KAY LOCKETT

Why George I made an underwhelming arrival

The 300th anniversary of the arrival of King George I in Britain was celebrated with a re-enactment by Old Royal Naval College (ORNC) in Greenwich, last week.

The new king first set foot on British soil at the Water Gates of Sir Christopher Wren's Royal Hospital for Seamen, now the Old Royal Naval College on September 18, 1714. His entourage included 18 cooks and two mistresses.

However, the arrival did not go quite to plan according to Carla Paulis, a volunteer guide at ORNC, who said everyone cheered the wrong man.

"By the time the real king disembarked only a few stragglers were left to greet him."

The arrival was captured by artist Sir James Thornhill in one of the paintings in the upper hall of the Painted Hall at the ORNC.

King George I is depicted inside a chariot in Roman costume, and appears with the figure of St George defeating a dragon, representing the papacy and the family of the deposed James II.

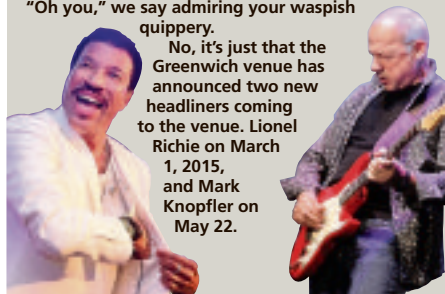
The centrepiece of the west wall of the Painted Hall is a striking family portrait of the new royal family, minus George's wife, Sophia Dorothea, who was imprisoned in Germany.

When Thornhill asked George I where he should depict his wife he replied: "I don't care. Under the carpet if you like."

The '80s all over again

Is *Walking With Dinosaurs* back at The O2, you say. We slap you playfully on the arm. "Oh you," we say admiring your waspish quippery.

No, it's just that the Greenwich venue has announced two new headliners coming to the venue. Lionel Richie on March 1, 2015, and Mark Knopfler on May 22.





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What's On

7 days ahead

Highlights of the week



EXHIBITION

The Art Of The Brick
Old Truman Brewery

★ Featuring more than 80 art sculptures created from more than a million Lego bricks by US artist Nathan Sawaya, this show has been proclaimed by CNN as one of the "world's 10 must-see exhibitions".

Its scope ranges from new conceptual pieces to replicas of iconic classical artwork.

Sept 25-Jan 4, £8-£16.50, artofthebrick.com.



COMEDY

Lee Evans: Monsters
The O2

★ The manic comedian must have fond memories of The O2. Ticket and DVD sales from his previous four tours have continually broken records with 2008's *Live At The O2* selling 259,399 during its first week, unmatched to this day.

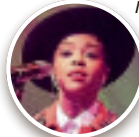
The towel-wielding rubber man is back for six nights with his *Monsters* tour – but tickets are, once more, going fast.

Sept 25-Oct 4, £33.75-£55.50, theo2.co.uk.

GIG

Ms Lauryn Hill
Brooklyn Bowl

★ The former Fugee's brand of neo-soul saw her win five grammy awards, including best album for 1998's *The Miseducation Of Lauryn Hill*.



In 2012, after she was charged with tax evasion, she rejected pop culture but has returned with a new, sometimes controversial, take on her own past.

Sept 28-29, £62, theo2.co.uk.

Memories of Malcolm keep me coming back

Q&A

Greenwich Comedy Festival is now under way and starring on Saturday night is Andrew Maxwell. He talks to Rob Virtue about the late, great Malcolm Hardee and performing in front of south-east London geezers.

■ You're a bit of a Greenwich veteran.

Yes I've been performing across the area for around 20 years and my first UK gig was at Up The Creek in Greenwich, then run by the great Malcolm Hardee, who is sadly no longer with us. But his legacy continues through his step-son Will who runs the Greenwich festival.

■ Were you close to Malcolm?

Very much so. He took me under his wing when I arrived in London. He was a real villain with a heart of gold type.

He used to take me out on his boat, which was moored up at the yacht club in Greenwich. I remember smashing back a bottle of rum and he's refuelling with a cigarette in his mouth. It's a wonder I'm still here.

■ What's the area like for comedy?

It's a great place. Every part of London has a different atmosphere but Greenwich is great for its mixture of hipsters and geezers. The audiences are full of students, people who were recently students or geezers from somewhere like Bexleyheath. They've got that roar.

The geezers provide what you want – a little bit of energy and that little bit is key. Geezers are like salt. A little bit is fine, too much and the land will go barren for years.

■ Looking forward to performing under the tent at the festival?

Definitely. This summer I've done Glastonbury, T In The Park, both V Festivals, Hop Farm and Latitude and with them you've got what us



Comedian Andrew Maxwell fuels up for his comedy festival gig

comedians call a lot of bleed. You're trying to tell jokes but Chase and Status are on stage next door with a big sound system. Greenwich is like a rock'n'roll festival without having to scream your jokes at people.

It's a great festival. Will's one of the best in the business and knows what comedians want. But don't let him know I'm praising him. Just say I've

known him since he was a kid and he's a little s***bag.

■ Do comedians always get along?

We actually do. At Greenwich we'll just natter away on couches over a beer. It's a small world and we're congenial people yet all of us are not quite the full shilling.

Continued on the next page

3 of a kind

Photography shows



Sunday Picnic, Nadav Kander

1 Constructing Worlds Barbican

Photographers show how architecture has shaped the world in 250 photographs.

From the skyscrapers of New York to the modern towers of Venezuela and the decaying structures in the Congo, our buildings reveal some truths about society.

Until Jan 11, £12 (concs), barbican.org.uk.

2 Snowden: A Life In View National Portrait Gallery

This display celebrates a major gift of photographs from Lord Snowden to the Gallery in 2013. Highlights include studies of Graham Greene, Julie Christie, Laurence Olivier and David Bowie, pictured.

Sept 26-June 21, FREE, npg.org.uk.



3 Around Half Moon Half Moon Theatre

David Mott has taken a selection of pictures reflecting the refurbishment of the theatre and added some from his portfolio too.

Until Jan 2, FREE, halfmoon.org.uk.

FURTHER AFIELD



★ **The Intoxication Season** at Kew explores the secret history behind mind-altering plants and fungi: from the opium poppy with powers that have shaken economic and political worlds for centuries, to ordinary plants such as coffee and tobacco.

Until Oct 12, £15, kew.org.

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What's On

Our faithful adaptation

PREVIEW

Religious comedy gets new music and jokes for stage show

Rachel Bishop
@wharf.co.uk

Following a huge crowdfunding campaign David Baddiel's cult movie *The Infidel* has made its way onto the stage – with added music.

Theatre Royal Stratford East has taken on the show, which co-director Kerry Michael describes as having “an exciting original new voice and some great tunes”.

The stage show will feature music from Erran Baron Cohen who has revealed his pop writing talents in his score.

The story follows the adventures of British Muslim Mahmoud who discovers not only that he is adopted, but also that his birth parents were Jewish.

The ensuing journey has all the expected – and unexpected – cultural



Kev Orkian, left, and Andrew Paul rehearse *The Infidel: The Musical*

and religious chaos of a comedy.

Armenian comedian Kev Orkian (Mahmoud) and Andrew Paul (Mahmoud's arch nemesis Jewish black-cab driver, Lenny) are bringing the rehearsals to a close ahead of the

opening night on October 4. After finishing a tour in America early to rehearse for the show, Kev says he is enjoying working with Baddiel, who he counts as one of his comedic idols. Speaking about his character

who has been donned the “Muslim Homer Simpson,” he said: “We’ve taken Homer’s naivety, stupidity and comedic timing and we are turning it into a father figure that’s part of a Muslim family.”

“It’s a completely different musical to one you’d find in the West End and with a storyline that is beautifully put together and thought provoking by David Baddiel – he has created a journey through the characters very well.”

East Londoner Andrew, best known as The Bill’s PC Dave Quinlan, had to contend with a busy schedule ahead of rehearsals.

He was performing in a stage thriller, in which he played twins, just as he began to take on the comedic role of Lenny.

Speaking about the storyline he said: “There’s no political message in it at all – you’d be hard pushed to be offended.”

“It’s a brilliant piece for showing that ultimately, no matter what your culture, creed or race we are all very much the same.”

Oct 4–Nov 2, Tues–Sat, 7.30pm, matinees from Oct 18; Wed, 2pm, Sat and Sun, 3pm, £7–24, Theatre Royal Stratford East, stratfordeast.com.

Co-directors David Baddiel and Kerry Michael watch rehearsals of the production which also stars Mina Anwar of *The Thin Blue Line* fame



Q&A

David Baddiel
CO-DIRECTOR

During his busy schedule co-directing *The Infidel: The Musical*, David Baddiel gave Rachel Bishop a five minute lowdown on his long anticipated theatre adaptation.

■ **Why did you choose Theatre Royal Stratford East to work with on this show?**

TRSE showed interest from the start and have been behind the development of the project through workshops.

It’s a theatre with a long history in multicultural and alternative theatre, in the most diverse borough in London (possibly in Britain), so we all felt that it was a good fit with *The Infidel*, which is a relentlessly multicultural musical. TRSE also has a great record of putting on new musicals, which is something not many other theatres do.

■ **Why do you think so many people got behind the project with the kickstarter campaign?**

The Infidel is a cult movie, but one that ended up being distributed in many countries. Those people who like it feel ownership of it and like the idea of being part of a new version.

■ **What do you hope people will get from the musical that the film may not have been able to provide?**

Well, first off, some brilliant music, written by the amazing composer Erran Baron Cohen. Though mainly a film composer he turns out to have an incredible ear for a pop tune.

The songs in the show are very catchy – they are proper songs, not cod-opera. But also, it’s a bigger, more colourful, entertainment than the movie, as a musical must be: an all-singing, all-dancing extravaganza.

I’ve also changed the story somewhat plus I’ve put in loads of new jokes and cut some of the bad ones.

Jokes? I’ll see what happens

From previous page

■ **You’re performing with Rich Hall, Stewart Frances and Craig Campbell on Saturday. What are they like?**

All good guys. I founded the Altitude Festival with Marcus Brigstocke a few years ago in the French Alps, and Craig was always one of the first we booked.

Rich I gigged with last week and he’s a fantastic pro, always writing and a real inspiration. And I’m good with banter with the crowds and telling stories but have never been able to write a good one-liner. Stewart and Milton Jones who is also performing in the festival, are fantastic with that.



■ **What material will you be performing?**

With Greenwich I’ll just go out there on stage and see what happens. I’ve recently put all my material together and called it *London Love* so I’ll be taking bits from that.

■ **And what do you love about London?**

If you have a burning desire to experience the world you can get your backpack and go travelling for a few years. Or you can come to London and experience it all around you. ■ *The Greenwich Comedy Festival returns to the National Maritime Museum until September 28. This year’s line-up also features Rich Hall, Milton Jones and Nina Conti. Tickets start at £15. Go to Greenwichcomedyfestival.co.uk or follow @MagnersUK to enter ticket competitions.*

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What's On

Peg's flexible friends put poetry in motion

STEVE EGGLETON



PREVIEW Coleridge's classic is interpreted as circus

Samuel Taylor Coleridge's classic poem *The Rime Of The Ancient Mariner* will come alive through circus, theatre and dance in an interpretation by Square Peg Contemporary Circus.

Rime, which comes to Stratford Circus this week, uses a combination of group acrobatics, human towers, Chinese pole, ropes and flips to create the emotional journey of the groom-to-be in the run-up to his wedding.

Norwegian-born Hege Eriksdatter, who made east London her home for five years from 2006, said: "Most of the company's cast is based in the east of London and so it feels like the show is coming home in both that sense and due to the audience I assume will show up."

She has taken on this tour following a small part in the 2012 London Olympics Opening

Ceremony as one of the 32 flying Mary Poppins.

She said: "There were many nerve-racking moments in the Olympics. But mostly there was an enormous sense of joy and collective pride and pure enjoyment."

Aerialist Nikki Rummer left her full-time job in January to join the show. She said it "has proven to be a terrifically challenging and fast-moving tour".

She said: "It's been an opportunity to be physical and creative and terrified, all at the same time."

"There aren't many chances to experience those things in an office."

Rachel Bishop

Sept 25-27, Thurs 2.30pm, Fri 7.30pm, Sat 3pm, £6-12, Stratford Circus, stratford-circus.com.

SCREEN
The Equalizer
(15) 132mins



Edward Woodward's beloved 1980s action hero takes a clunking turn in the hands of *Training Day*'s Antoine Fuqua.

He turns once more to everyman-with-edge Denzel Washington to create his hero – a former covert operative laying low in dull suburbia.

When Chloe Grace Moritz takes a beating, Denzel's gloves come off and the OTT levelling begins.

★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆

SCREEN
What We Did...
(12A) 95mins



Outnumbered supremos Andy Hamilton and Guy Jenkin repeat their improv wonders with *What We Did On Holiday* which takes the idea on an ill-fated family road trip.

David Tennant, Rosamund Pike and Billy Connolly have plenty of quips and belly laughs but they are mercilessly upstaged by the children in this neatly-balanced, never cloying comedy.

★ ★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆

SCREEN
Maps To The Stars
(18) 112mins



David Cronenberg's relentlessly grim satire of ambition, greed and dark familial secrets wavers in tone but often hits the mark.

Scriptwriter Bruce Wagner crafted this lacerating portrait while he was working as a limousine driver in Tinseltown and he is unflinching in his depiction of how far some starlets will go to cling to the last dregs of fame.

★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆

ALSO ON RELEASE *Origins* (15, 106mins) sees a scientist lose himself in love just as he is about to make a jaw-dropping discovery that could change the human story forever



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Food



DRINK WITH PAULO BRAMMER

Young wines all the way from Australia

1



■ Moss Wood Amy's, Margaret River, 2011
 ■ Waitrose, £14.99
 ■ Owned by Keith and Clare Mugford, Moss Wood is based in Margaret River and is extremely focused. Amy's is a Cabernet Sauvignon, Petit Verdot, Malbec and Merlot blend and really shows Moss Wood's purist style. It has very clean blueberries combined with violet and liquorice.

★★★★☆

2



■ Chardonnay, Wallis, Ten Minute by Tractor, Mornington Peninsula, 2011
 ■ Majestic, £45
 ■ Mornington Peninsula is one of the finest sites for high quality Chardonnay and Pinot Noir. This single vineyard Chardonnay really impresses on the palate despite its very young age. It's complex and layered with notes of nuts, smoked stone fruit and lemon.

★★★★★

3



■ Shiraz, Shaw and Smith, Adelaide Hills, 2012
 ■ Majestic, £25
 ■ Michael Hill Smith and cousin Martin Shaw started their business back in 1989 and their wines helped establish Adelaide Hills as a prosperous wine region. This cool climate shiraz is elegant and stylish, showing notes of pepper and smoke recalling the northern Rhone.

★★★★☆

Paulo Brammer buys wine for ETM Group (The Gun and One Canada Square). Go to etmgroup.co.uk.

Choose a crop to fit with your busy lifestyle in hectic capital

INTERVIEW

Trying to grow your own with limited space? There's always a way, writes **Rachel Bishop**



Fresh beets: Veg harvested at the farm

After horse meat popped up in numerous ready meals last year, people are understandably more concerned about what they're eating.

For anyone wanting to take back control of what they put in their bodies, Surrey Docks Farm green mentor Kirsten Downer said they should start by growing their own.

She is running classes at the farm to show how easy it can be to grow fruit and veg even if all you have is a balcony or a windowsill.

She said: "Growing from home makes you feel a bit more of a human being – it let's you take back control of where your food comes from.

"It also allows you to grow organic and to bring more greenery into your home."

Kirsten admitted she wasn't always as green-fingered as she is now, which might prove encouraging for anyone who seems to wither plants just by looking at them.

She said: "I used to kill plants loads in my 20s and then I just got into growing them properly over time – it's just about thinking it through.

"You need to decide what will fit with your lifestyle, what plants you actually want to grow and what you will give your time to.

"As the temperatures are dropping now it is

a little trickier, but you just have to be more creative.

"It's a matter of choosing the right crop that can cope with lower temperatures and light levels."

Kirsten suggest micro-growing for those really short of space, where plants like carrots and salad leaves are harvested within 7-10 weeks.

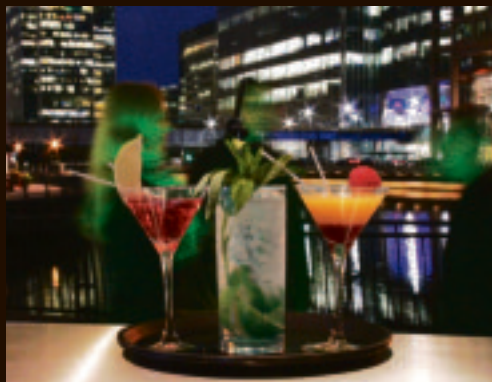
She said: "With salad leaves you don't need much room to grow them as they don't have very long roots.

"They are also great to use with a technique called 'cut and come again', where you just take a few leaves each time and then they will grow back. This can sustain you for two or three months."

The balcony growing class, which is part of the Blooming Southwark programme to encourage people into a greener lifestyle, is now fully booked, but further classes in the programme are still available.

Go to surreydocksfarm.org.uk.

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GROWING UP

★ You'll need some kit to get your balcony allotment off the ground – here are a few things for the shopping list.



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watering
can, £39
 John Lewis
 Canada Square
johnlewis.com

Gro-Sure fine
grade seed
and cutting
compost, £3.99
 Robert Dyas
 Canada Square
robertdyas.co.uk



KAY LOCKETT



TOP TIPS

★ *Kirsten shares her advice for keeping the plants in your balcony garden alive.*

1 Big pots: This allows for more soil, which lets the water soak through ensuring there's always a steady water supply for the crop.

2 Right plant, right place: The main reason why plants die is people not knowing its needs. It's worth doing a little research before getting started.

3 Your lifestyle: If you're always busy, think what plants will be able to withstand little attention and put them somewhere you will notice them to make sure they get fed.

4 Choose your crop wisely: Make sure you like it so you put time into it – don't just go for the ones you think you should grow like potatoes or onions.

5 Water: Not too much and also not too little. Put the pot on some stones so it can drain properly and some mulching on the soil to slow evaporation. Feed the soil, not the plant.

■ **Grow in autumn/winter:**

Herbs: Dill and coriander.

Vegetables: Kale, spinach, spring onions, varieties of salad, garlic, broad beans and peas.

Fruit: Wild strawberries.

Sweet tips: Kirsten Downer will be giving a talk on growing your own in limited space

CULTIVATION STATION

★ *Take all the thought out of growing your own with ingredients in ready-to-plant kit form.*



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Jubilee Place
oliverbonas.com



The Pocket Garden Hot Stuff Chilli seeds grow pouch, £6
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Canada Square
johnlewis.com



Unwins Herb Collection, £2.99
Robert Dyas
Canada Square
robertdyas.co.uk



Whitefurze mini propagator, £5.99
Robert Dyas
Canada Square
robertdyas.co.uk

Thoughtful Gardener eight seed markers, £9
John Lewis, Canada Square
johnlewis.com



Joules tray with three pots, £15
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johnlewis.com

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Fashion



Expect mall fashion shows

Prepare for three days of discounts

Canary Wharf's Autumn Fashion Weekend is back showcasing the latest trends for this season in Canada Place and Cabot Place.

The programme of in-mall entertainment includes live music, pop-up stores and numerous discounts around the estate alongside the fashion shows, which will run throughout the weekend.

Among the discounts in Canada Place stores are **20% off** at Warehouse, Ted Baker and Gap and further stores will also be offering **10% off** and **15% off**.

The mall will also host Jackie D Williams' R'n'B vocal, mixed with a funk disco and the chance to relax and unwind at

Jo Malone with a hand massage.

30%

Maximum discount available during the event

Among the pop-ups available throughout the weekend are Thomas Pink's Personally Pink service, where staff will be on

hand to offer shopping advice – with a **10% discount** in store on purchases of and over £150.

Over in Cabot Place there will be entertainment from Tristan Macka from September 26-28 at various times from midday and store offers including **30% off** at Myla, a complimentary personal shopping appointment and **10% discount** at Reiss and plenty of tea and coffee samples from Whittard of Chelsea, which is a recent Wharf arrival.

Go to canarywharf.com for full listings from the weekend.

Rachel Bishop

How to make clothes to stand out in a crowd

MATT GRAYSON



Libby Rose, who teaches sewing classes, is an advocate of DIY when it comes to fashion

CRAFT

Sewing guru Libby Rose gives Rachel Bishop four simple ways to improve shop-bought clothes

Libby Rose runs sewing tutorials in Greenwich and Blackheath. Here she offers her four favourite techniques you can use to give clothes a personal touch without spending hours darning, stitching or crocheting.

■ Appliqué

When you cut out a shape that you want to attach to a piece of clothing, cut the same shape out in a product called Bondaweb and pop that between your shape and the fabric. Then iron it on.

You can leave the shape on without stitching, but it will eventually fall off



Add panels to break up a line

★ Libby recommends the following suppliers:
■ Rolls and Rems, Lewisham, rollsandrem.com
■ Lewisham & Deptford Sewing Machine Centre, Deptford, sewingmachinesuk.co.uk

and, of course, I would say you should always do these things properly and sew them.

■ Add a third dimension

It's really simple to add a little something to your clothes by sewing on a few buttons or ribbons.

Doing this takes no time at all but the effect can be a powerful one – it makes an outfit appear more 3D and will make you stand out from the crowd.

■ Bias binding

This is a tape cut at 45 degrees to the weave of a fabric and is sewn round the edges of garments.

It can be good for adding a little colourful touch to the edge of a skirt or dress – or, if you have just taken a hem up and don't want to re-hem the item, adding this is a neat and easy solution.

■ Panels

Break up the monotony of a plain skirt with a panel sewn into the fabric.

Lie the panel on top, so the materials are face-to-face and sew along the seam. It's a really easy way to make a skirt a little more exciting.

Go to misslibbyrose.com.



Use a hoop for hand sewing to tighten and control the fabric

LIBBY'S HACKS

★ **Top tips to avoid getting tied up in knots when making changes with needle and thread.**

■ Tie a full, double knot when securing a thread.

■ If you're hand sewing get a hoop – as this tightens the fabric and keeps it more stable while you're working.

■ When securing the fabric ready to sew, face the pins towards the edges you're sewing together, as it's easier to take them out as you go then.

■ When machine sewing ask the shop assistant when you're buying fabric about the size of needle needed.

FASHION FAST

Style round-up

MUDCHUTE FARM

Event celebrates users of wool

★ Join the Mudchute Farm team on September 27 for wool crafting – where those who crochet, knit, weave or craft with sheep hair can share their projects.

The event takes place between 2pm and 4pm at Mudchute Farm in Pier Street on the Isle of Dogs. Go to mudchute.org.

SURREY DOCKS FARM

Beauty products from the garden



Beauty and soil: The workshop uses natural ingredients

★ Learn how to make soap, body lotion, scrubs or bath bags at Surrey Docks Farm just ahead of the Christmas season.

Utilise the farm's produce from its herb garden at a workshop on November 9 to make the more personalised beauty products.

Surrey Docks Farm green mentor, Kirsten Downer said: "The workshop will enable people to create bespoke handmade affordable Christmas presents.

"We'll look at the farm's beautiful herb garden, and how to grow and use herbs and flowers to make soaps and other skin care products such as cream, shower gel or body lotion."

The event takes place between 10am and 3pm and costs £15. Go to surreydocksfarm.org.uk.

CHARLES TYRWHITT

Get four shirts for £25 each

★ Charles Tyrwhitt, in Canada Place Mall, is offering four shirts for £100 from its autumn collection.

Among the numerous styles included on offer are non-iron, slim fit and classic fit. Go to ctshirts.co.uk.

Health

FITNESS FAST

Health round-up

SPORTSDOCK

Ord offers tips on making it



Personal trainer Charlotte Ord

★ Fitness guru Charlotte Ord from ITV's show *The Biggest Loser* is offering budding personal trainers the opportunity to experience what it takes to become qualified and develop a career in the fitness industry.

Charlotte will be at Future Fit Training's next open day on Sunday from 10am, at the University of East London's Sportsdock Centre, offering free expert advice.

As a Future Fit graduate, recently voted personal trainer of the year 2014, she will be presenting a seminar on how to become successful in the industry and will be on hand to answer questions afterwards.

The event is free but places need to be booked in advance. Go to futurefit.co.uk for more information.

LIMEHOUSE MARINA ELITE

Launch delayed to ensure quality



Boxing promoter Mickey Helliott is helping to set up the gym

★ Limehouse Marina Elite have delayed opening its Premier Health Club and Sports Medical Facility until November 10.

CEO Dominic Stow said "To enable us to reach our goal of 'excellence as standard' from the very outset, I have made the decision to move the opening of Limehouse Marina Elite."

There will be an open weekend on November 8-9 for anyone interested in membership.

Go to limehousemarinaelite.com.

Three simple moves that you can try on your own



Fitness guru **Laura Williams** gets out of the gym to demonstrate DIY exercises



1



Skipping lunge

■ Start in a lunge position with right leg bent at the front, left leg bent behind and arms bent by sides. Propel yourself into the air by pushing off the balls of both feet and driving left knee forward and up before landing back in your starting position. Do 20 reps, switch sides and then repeat.



2

★ Resistance tubes with handles are easy to find online and cost around £5.

Standing Tube Row

■ Wrap the band around an immobile anchor (such as the handles of a firmly closed door, a tree or a section of wall). Hold the band's handles and back about three-four feet away, facing the anchor. Extend your arms out in front of you at chest height holding handles so that wrists are facing inwards. Pull the band handles towards either side of your chest keeping arms close to sides, then straighten and return to start position. Do two sets of 20.

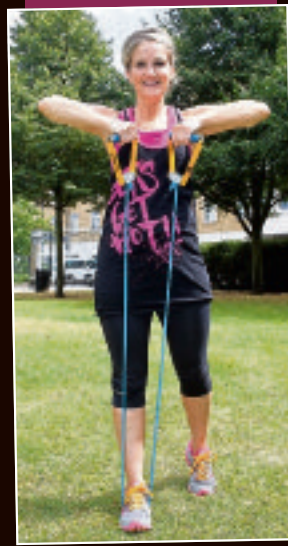


3

Upright row with tube

■ Stand on the tube with feet shoulder width apart (adjust your feet depending on the difficulty – closer together to lessen resistance or further apart to increase).

Start with hands in front of you holding handles in an overhand grip. Pull the band up to shoulder height keeping elbows higher than hands. Slowly lower the band to starting position. Do two sets of 15 reps.



PICTURES KAY LOCKETT



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*OFFER ENDS 31ST OCTOBER 14

Travel

We send our writers to look for five seasonal citybreaks in Europe with a hotel to complement each setting



Vienna, Austria

1 Fine art, grand architecture and a love of the outdoors make Vienna a great choice for a warm weather city break.

Drawing even more attention to the Austrian capital is new luxury hotel Park Hyatt Vienna, located in the city's Unesco-listed First District in a renovated 100-year-old building that once served as a bank.

Smooth marble pillars, crystal lanterns and Viennese mirrors evoke the grandeur of the Hapsburg dynasty, which once ruled the city, while there are also references to the Secessionist arts movement,

championed by Gustav Klimt. A subterranean spa features a 15m pool in the bank's former vault, while The Bank restaurant occupies a dining room that could compete with some of Vienna's greatest palaces. A menu features European regional cuisine made with locally-sourced products, including river salmon and pike-perch.

Temperatures are still warm in early autumn, and there's the chance to take a dip in one of the city's many natural swimming spots, located in pollution-free rivers.

Sarah Marshall

Go to vienna.park.hyatt.com.

Provence, France

2 If you had to imagine the perfect hotel in the south of France, it would probably be something very like Domaine de la Baume. There's the shady gravel terrace, where you could have a glass of rose with your lunchtime salad, and the beautiful swimming pool, surrounded by roses and cypress trees.

Then there's the hotel itself, which has the intimate feel of a private home, but all the mod cons of a luxury hotel.

The Domaine is the latest addition to the Sibuet collection, an 18th century gem an hour and a half's drive

from Nice, set in 100 acres of landscaped gardens and meadows. It was once the home of celebrated modern artist Bernard Buffet.

Bedrooms are beautifully and tastefully furnished with antique furniture and Provencal fabrics, alongside state-of-the-art flat-screen TVs and super-fast internet.

Spend days riding around the estate, taking part in a cookery lesson with the head chef, or visiting the spa, set in a log cabin next to a series of waterfalls.

Hilary Rose

Go to en.domaine-delabaume.com.



Florence, Italy

3 Foraging in dense thickets and sliding down dusty verges is all part of the day job for truffle hunter Giulio Benuzzi, who, accompanied by his shaggy-haired Lagotto Romagnolo dog Eda, roams the Tuscan hills on his truffle quest.

Last year, he collected a kilo in an hour – worth 500 euros – and reveals that a large number were found in the grounds of 15th century villa Il Salvatino, which now operates as a five-star hotel.

He regularly guides guests on tours of the surrounding woodland, teaching them about a passion that has even

led him to make sketches and write poems about the gourmet fungus.

Set on a hillside in Fiesole, with views of the terracotta Duomo in Florence, the hotel has been meticulously restored to its former glory by the Pigozzo family.

Paint has been stripped away to reveal original frescoes, and lemon trees in the terraced gardens cultivated to their original height. The food served is excellent, with many ingredients found on site – including, of course, those precious truffles.

Sarah Marshall

Go to salvatino.com.

The autumn imperative



Brac, Croatia

4 Swing open the door from the back bedroom at Villa Bila and, in the distance, you might see a yacht bobbing on the sun-dappled, teal Adriatic sea. Perched on the south-east coast of the Brac, the biggest island in Dalmatia, the spacious, gleaming white five-bedroom property is on the water's edge at the port of Sumartin. A speedboat can even take guests directly from the airport to the front door.

Guests have access to the speedboat and 33ft yacht, allowing them to explore other islands such as nearby Hvar, and reach secluded restaurants that are only accessible by water.

The local village has no big hotels, meaning it's possible to truly immerse yourself in the local Croatian way of life.

Nicole Gallagher

Go to villabila.com.



Lodz, Poland

5 A major city 80 miles south-west of Warsaw, Lodz (pronounced "wooj") has a rich textile history.

Today, the city's creative credentials mean artists come here to meet other writers, musicians and designers exchange numbers in the trendy cafes, bars and studios of Off Piotrkowska.

Nowhere else are these historic and artistic connections better represented than at Andel's Hotel Lodz, a 19th-century red-brick structure that, having once been a thriving weaving mill, is now enjoying its second heyday as a spectacular modern guest house.

It's a different kind of luxury here. One that blends elements of past and present, classic and contemporary, industrial and artistic.

Steve Clarkson

Go to vi-hotels.com.

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LondonEYE



TOBY MELVILLE



AL AND PALS

U.S. director/actor Al Pacino, left, and his girlfriend Lucila Sola arrive for the British premiere of his film *Salome And Wilde Salome* at South Bank on Sunday. Jessica Chastain, pictured left, was also present for the opening which is a documentary-drama, written, directed by and starring Pacino exploring Oscar Wilde's play *Salome*.

TOBY MELVILLE



BOW YOUR HEADS

The Rev Stephen Mason blesses the congregation on horseback outside St John's Church in Hyde Park. Following the Horseman's Sunday Anglican Sunday service, a procession of riders on horseback gathered outside the church for the annual tradition which celebrates riding in the centre of the capital.

LUKE MACGREGOR



GREEN MACHINE

Demonstrators in animal costumes walk in the People's Climate March on Sunday. The London march, which saw Emma Thompson on the streets, pictured right, was one of many held worldwide, ahead of the forthcoming UN Emergency summit on climate change.



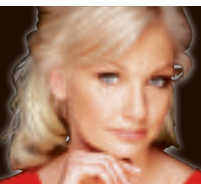
Take 5

Keep your brain ticking over with our selection of coffee break puzzles



Stars

With Claire Petulengro



AQUARIUS

JAN 21-FEB 19

For more call 0905 817 2070

You don't know who you can trust and feel betrayed by someone you thought would keep your secrets. A new group of friends want to get to know you.

PISCES

FEB 20-MAR 20

For more call 0905 817 2071

You may have got the wrong end of the stick as far as a personal issue is concerned. Don't accuse close ones of things they may not have done.

ARIES

MAR 21-APR 21

For more call 0905 817 2060

You find yourself running around for close ones who seem unable to cope on their own at the moment. You're great at supporting others, but take it easy too.

TAURUS

APR 22-MAY 21

For more call 0905 817 2061

You've been working hard at life and from today you start to reap some benefits. You're slowly but surely developing a new skill that can help shape your future.

GEMINI

MAY 22-JUNE 21

For more call 0905 817 2062

Finally, you're looking at life as if the glass is half full. You're also starting to see quite clearly who is an asset to your life and who drags you down Gemini.

CANCER

JUNE 22-JULY 23

For more call 0905 817 2063

Don't belittle the ideas that a loved one is going to be having, they may be more important to them than you realise. Try to put some time aside to talk, through.

LEO

JULY 23-AUG 23

For more call 0905 817 2064

I know you've learnt a lot from your recent experiences but that doesn't mean that you should belittle the ideas that your loved ones are having.

VIRGO

AUG 23-SEPT 23

For more call 0905 817 2065

Put some time aside to think about careers and where you see your's going. A financial issue that has gotten out of hand must be sorted out.

LIBRA

SEPT 24-OCT 23

For more call 0905 817 2066

You may have to pay out money for something you don't think is your responsibility. Ensure you keep all receipts and make a note of what's occurring.

SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 21

For more call 0905 817 2067

Someone is taking but not giving and the longer you allow them to get away with it, the more they will think that it's acceptable. Assert yourself Scorpio.

SAGITTARIUS

NOV 22-DEC 22

For more call 0905 817 2068

You're mixing with some really alternative characters and I can see from your chart that you're feeling alive and ready to take on the future. Go wild.

CAPRICORN

DEC 23-JAN 20

For more call 0905 817 2069

Help you've given to close ones hasn't really been appreciated, or so you think. From today you get to see close ones drop their defences and thank you.

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Dinner and a Movie



★ Fancy winning dinner and a movie for you and a friend? We've teamed up with West India Quay's Via and Cineworld West India Quay to offer two burgers, two bottles of Budweiser (or a bottle of wine) and a pair of tickets to the cinema.

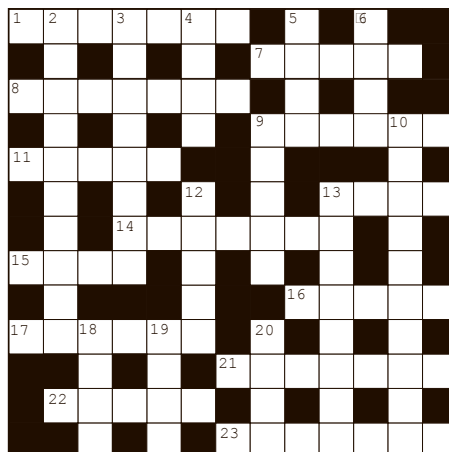
To be in with a chance of

winning, just tell us the name of the actor and comedian who stars in British comedy *What We Did On Our Holiday*.

Email your answer to newsdesk@wharf.co.uk with "Movie Night" in the subject line. The closing date is October 3. Include your name and address.



Crossword



ACROSS

- Say unintentionally (3,4)
- Photo book (5)
- Angry or awkward, slang (7)
- Deadly (6)
- Opposite of heads (5)
- Eye up (4)
- Non-metallic element (7)
- Poses a question (4)
- Planet (5)
- Bracelet type (6)
- The act of keeping safe (7)
- Cost (5)
- State emphatically (7)

DOWN

- Painless killing of someone (10)
- Free from stains (8)
- Guessing game (1-3)
- Run away (4)
- Shove (4)
- Easy to lift (5)
- Versatile cricketer (3-7)
- Hand covering (5)
- Eastern (8)
- Standard (4)
- Fortune (4)
- Sixth month (4)

ACROSS: 1. Let slip; 2. Euthanasia; 3. Spotted; 4. Lethal; 5. Stropy; 6. Push; 7. Planet; 8. Push; 9. Lethal; 10. All-round; 11. Tail; 12. Glove; 13. Oriental; 14. Sulphur; 15. Asks; 16. Venus; 17. Bangle; 18. Norm; 19. Luck; 20. June. DOWN: 1. Let slip; 2. Euthanasia; 3. Spotted; 4. Lethal; 5. Stropy; 6. Push; 7. Planet; 8. Push; 9. Lethal; 10. All-round; 11. Tail; 12. Glove; 13. Oriental; 14. Sulphur; 15. Asks; 16. Venus; 17. Bangle; 18. Norm; 19. Luck; 20. June.

Sudoku

EASY

		9		7		6	3	5
7	5		3			1	4	8
8		1	5			9	2	7
		2	9		6			3
6	8	4				2	1	9
	7		2		1	8		6
1	9	5	8	3	2			4
3	6	8	4	1		5	9	
4		7			5	3	8	

HARD

5					9			8
			2	1			5	
		1					4	
4	2					6		
6			8					1
			3		9			
	5		7	6				2
8							9	3
			3					

GUIDE

In order to complete Sudoku, readers should fill in each of the grids so that every column, row and 3x3 box within the squares to the left contains the digits 1 to 9. No repetition of digits is allowed within any of the sequences. Why not time yourself and see whether you can beat your best with next week's puzzles?

The Wharf's Sudoku puzzles are supplied by sudoku-puzzles.net
For more free brainteasers including Futoshiki, Nonogram and Samurai, go to the website

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Astrology calls cost 75p per minute and last approx 4mins. Psychic calls cost £1.50 per minute from BT landlines (other networks may vary). Calls from mobiles may be higher. Psychic lines are open 7am-2am daily. Callers must be 18 or over and have the bill payer's permission. All calls are recorded. Texts cost £1.50 per message and may take two messages. For entertainment purposes only. Customer services 0800 140 9049. PhonePayPlus regulated. SP, Pronto Media, PO Box 199, Selby, YO8 1BP

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THE FANS' ROAR

By Ian Toal

Strikers are struggling to take chances

Millwall Supporters Club
millwallsupportersclub.co.uk

After consecutive defeats, we had to stop the rot against table-topping Nottingham Forest at The Den on Saturday.

The result was a 0-0 draw. We were the team on top for the majority of the match. Sadly we couldn't find the net and manager Ian Holloway must be working with his forwards on converting chances. Eight goals from eight league matches is not a sufficient return.

The jury is still out on strikers Ricardo Fuller, Mathias Ranegie and Lee Gregory. Currently none of them looks likely contenders and I wouldn't be surprised if Holloway looked for a loan signing.

At least we managed to keep a clean sheet for the first time since our victory away at Fulham in August.

“I wouldn't be surprised if Holloway looked for a loan signing

right-back Carlos Edwards picked up a nasty knee injury in the Forest match.

This is a real blow as Edwards has been a revelation since joining the club on loan last season. This season he has followed up with more great form after signing permanently in the summer.

Midfielder Jimmy Abdou had to slot into the right-back slot when Edwards was stretchered off and then put in a man-of-the-match performance. So that's one option open to Holloway, another would be to move skipper Alan Dunne back to his more familiar full-back position.

There are other options including bringing in forgotten man Justin Hoyte, but he had a poor match against Southampton in the League Cup. Or youngster Josh Sifa could come in for his league debut.

I was disappointed to hear FA chairman Greg Dyke talk about restricting non-EU players joining lower league clubs.

I want clubs to produce home-grown talent to improve the England team, but the root cause is the amount of money in the Premier League.

Sometimes non-EU players are the only option that clubs can afford. The FA should make a priority of spreading the TV riches first.

Huddersfield v Millwall, Saturday, 3pm



SYNC AND SWIM

Comedian and Thames swimmer David Walliams practises with the Aquabatix Synchronized Swim Team at London Aquatics Centre, at the Olympic Park above, ahead of the British Gas SwimBritain event, left. Nearly 3,000 signed to take part in a series of swimming relays across Britain, aimed at increasing awareness of the sport.

GETTY

WEEKEND FLUTTER

RACING POST



RACING

The feature race this weekend is at Newmarket, the Betfred Cambridge-shire. The selection, likely favourite is **Air Pilot**, trained by Ralph Beckett.

He was so impressive in his last run at Newbury, pictured. You could have called him the winner four furlongs from home and for this first leg of the autumn double Air Pilot looks to have a fantastic chance.

Joe Pollak

FOOTBALL

Tottenham have had a difficult start to the season under Mauricio Pochettino and they look up against it in the north London derby at the Emirates. **Arsenal** are brimming with league confidence after a 3-0 win at Aston Villa and their push for a top-four spot can receive another boost despite cup misery on Tuesday.

Ian Wilkerson

For daily expert advice, top tips and the latest news from our experts go to racingpost.com

WHARF CUP

We're ready for some new stars

Stars from former Arsenal and France footballer Robert Pires to England cricket captains in the form of Alastair Cook and Michael Vaughan have been recent visitors to Play On Sports.

And you can follow them on to the pitches when The Wharf Cup five-a-side tournament takes place next month.

Teams from across Docklands will be heading to the event, which offers bragging rights and prizes.

Play On Sports' general manager Roger Rebelo said:

"It's going to be a round-robin tournament in divisions with semi-finals and finals.

"We run a number of corporate events often with Canary Wharf firms but we also attract people from across London due to our facilities."

Roger, who joined seven years ago as an umpire before taking over the running of the centre added: "It's a unique centre. People come from far away, especially because of our spring loaded net which you can bounce into and climb.

"It also sees cricketers here because you can bounce it off the nets for runs or be caught off the net.

"We attract international level sports people because of what we offer. The English netball team have been, as well as rugby league players and we've had cricketers like Michael Vaughan and Alastair Cook."

The centre at Wood Wharf has been open for nearly a decade and has 10 courts – six for multi-sports and four for padel tennis.

Entry to the Wharf Cup, running for its second year on October 24, costs £150 per team, which includes five players and two subs.

For more details call 020 7293 2272 or email daisy.lewis@trinitymirror.com.

Roger Rebelo



the **Wharf Cup**

playon sports

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Raffle to be run on the night to raise money for Tommy's charity.

For more information on the event or to book your team call Daisy Lewis on 020 7293 2272 or email daisy.lewis@trinitymirror.com

Sport

Wharf



FIRING BLANKS

Lions need to learn how to convert their chances

P87

CHARLTON

Striker signs and bids for team place

Rob.Virtue
@wharf.co.uk

CHARLTON locked in a highly-rated youth talent on a three-year contract this week.

Karlan Ahearne-Grant, who has been leading scorer for the club's under-18s for the past two seasons, said he was motivated to put pen to paper by the hope of first-team opportunities with the Addicks.

The 17-year-old has been included in the matchday squad twice already this season and said he wanted to follow in the footsteps of other academy products.

He said: "It's down to me now whether I can progress as a player. I've seen Joe [Gomez] do it, which is brilliant to see after I played with him last season. Now he's pushed on and I just want to follow in his footsteps."

"There are other players as well, like Jordan Cousins, Callum Harriott and Diego Poyet, who have all come through the academy so it just gives you hope that you can do it."

"When I was in the squad the taster was good and it just makes you want it more so the next step for me is to hopefully make the bench at some point and then make a few appearances."

The club also have an option to extend the contract for 12 months after the three year deal expires.

Charlton entertain Middlesbrough on Saturday. The Addicks remained unbeaten after last week's 1-1 draw with Rotherham.

The side are likely to have a clean bill of health for the clash at The Valley. *Charlton v Middlesbrough, Saturday, 3pm*

RUGBY

Millwall face derby defeat

■ Millwall's first XV fell to defeat in the derby with East London at Hackney Marshes on Saturday. The hosts won 25-17 against the Isle of Dogs side.

Meanwhile, the second string beat Maldon 40-20 with Eduardo Silva running in four tries.

The women's team Venus had a harsh lesson at Barnes at the weekend, losing 74-0. The first team travel to May & Baker this weekend.

■ Blackheath got their first win of the season as they held on to beat Loughborough Students 29-19.

The south-east London outfit were 22 points up just after the break before the visitors made a contest of it.

Alex Gallagher, on his debut, kicked the hosts to victory with three conversions and a penalty. He also scored a try. On Saturday Blackheath travel to Old Albanians.

Share our stadium? We would probably say no

WEST HAM

Karren Brady gives strong indication that Spurs would not be heading east

Rob.Virtue
@wharf.co.uk

West Ham's Karren Brady has given the biggest indication yet that the club would veto any bid by Tottenham to make a temporary move to the Olympic Stadium.

The idea was raised when it emerged Spurs would have to leave White Hart Lane for at least a season.

Stadium owners London Legacy Development Corporation indicated it was open for talks.

However, the West Ham vice-chairman hinted it would not happen when asked if it was possible another club could share the stadium with the Hammers.

"In reality a team could but only with our permission," said Brady.

"And in reality no-one has asked and we would probably say 'no' if that happened now - if you get my drift."

Brady was speaking at the unveiling of West Ham's New Stadium Reservation Centre in Westfield Stratford City.

The facility allows the club to show off its hospitality packages.

It would allow season ticket holders and members to choose their own seat at the stadium, the new home once the club leaves the Boleyn Ground in 2016. Cutting edge technology will help them in their choice said Brady.

She said: "Everybody who wants to buy a seat will come here and can select where they want. With the



Above, Karren Brady, centre, with players and staff of West Ham outside the new Stadium Reservation Centre in Westfield Stratford City
Below, an artist's impression of how the stadium could look in 2016



technology they can see the view and look and up down from where they would be seated."

Brady added the club had no worries about filling the 54,000 seats.

"We've got a million people on the database and a waiting list for season tickets," she said.

"The most important thing we're doing is pricing it to sell out. There's something for everyone from expensive hospitality to kids for a quid."

She added the club would use the stadium to help the Irons become one of the top sides in the country, with profits invested back into the team.

"Our ambition is to be a top six club," she said. "Having 54,000 people here is part of that and helps us build the team. It will also give us the best multi-sports ground in Europe and one of the greatest stadiums in the world."

A tough game but we can get a result

West Ham captain Kevin Nolan believes his teammates can beat Manchester United on Saturday.

But he said it's the form of his own side which gives him hope rather than United's collapse. The Reds' fragile defence was exposed spectacularly in last weekend's 5-3 defeat to newly promoted Leicester City.

The Hammers, meanwhile, saw off Liverpool in style and that has given the team confidence ahead of the trip to Old Trafford.

"It's going to be a tough game," said Nolan. "Let's not forget United have got some fantastic players.



I know what happened at the weekend, with a few freak goals sending Leicester on the way. But we're going to go there with a lot of confidence.

"Our boys have done fantastically well in the last few games and we've got no reason to fear them. I genuinely believe we can go there and get a result."

West Ham have impressed with their attacking displays so far this campaign. However, Nolan, who is nearing a return to action following a shoulder injury, said he believed it was down to the quality coming into the club over the summer rather than a change in tactics.

"Belief isn't something we've gained overnight, it's been in the dressing room since I've been in the club," he said.

"We had that belief we'd get into the Premier League then the belief we would stay there. And last year, although we had all those injuries, we had a good season. It was a tough season but a good season."

"This year what the gaffer's been able to do is strengthen the quality of players and they've come with the ethics I know I've tried to instil in every team I've played for and been captain of. The boys have been brilliant."

Man Utd v West Ham, Sat, 3pm

the FOCUS

Prepare yourselves for the **party season**

A fresh alternative to other East End venues

PRINT HOUSE

Events manager says she wants to see long boozy evenings on riverside terrace

Kay Lockett
The Wharf

We are bringing something new to Stratford – trying to be different to the chains at Westfield,” said Print House Bar And Kitchen general manager Noel Linehan.

“We offer something individual with our menu and drinks – everything we do is made in house with fresh ingredients.”

Situated on the banks of the Three Mills Wall river in Stratford, the recently converted restaurant and bar features a large open-plan space and an outdoor terrace perfect for groups of two to 130.

For Wharfers keen to sort their festive celebrations early it represents something different. Noel said: “Individuality is very important to us. We won’t be producing the stereotypical mass-produced Christmas dinner. Anyone who comes here for our popular Sunday roasts will know the quality to expect from our Christmas menu.”

Continued on Page 14



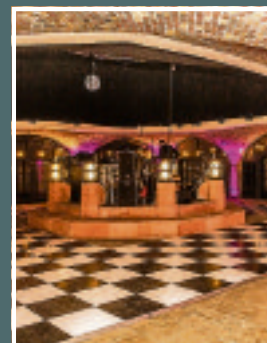
Noel Linehan, left, Ryan Hoy and Holly Wolfers are waiting to welcome Wharfers to the Stratford venue

the Wharf



Inside

Discounts for festive bashes at East End venues



Wapping

Best Parties Ever sets out its stall at Tobacco Dock **P74**

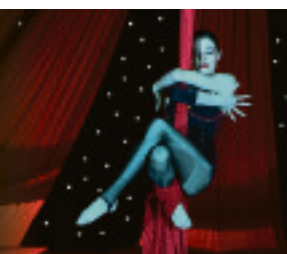


West Ham

It's not all about the beautiful game on match day **P18**

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December 2014

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See back page for more details...

0844 499 40 40 www.bestpartiesever.com

Focus Party Season

We can't wait to start putting up decorations

From Page 13

Head chef Ryan Hoy has devised a Christmas menu with an artisan twist on traditional fare including smoked salmon on brioche toast with dill pickle crème fraîche, roast turkey crown with sage butter, figs in blankets, market vegetables and veal jus; and chocolate and hazelnut brownie with raspberry coulis and vanilla ice cream.

Three courses cost £30pp and there are also group party options that include Champagne on arrival and a cheese board, washed down with a mulled cider or two.

Noel said: "Our outside space next to the river is a fantastic bonus and we are going to hold a Christmas market out there."

"Around eight stalls will sell a mixture of our own produce as well as that created by local artists and

producers. Visitors will be able to sip on warm glühwein and keep warm under the heaters."

Events manager Holly Wolfers is also excited about the venue's first Christmas and wants to give Wharfers a reason to venture to Stratford for their festive celebrations this year.

She said: "Our big open kitchen adds to the atmosphere. You can enjoy the buzz of the kitchen and see the chefs busy creating your dishes."

"We will have a DJ and live music in the evenings and we want people to enjoy boozy December evenings outside on the terrace."

"The space has a Scandinavian feel and we will fill it with holly and ivy for a natural festive look."

"I can't wait to decorate. It's going to be stylish and cosy in here this winter."

Go to theprinthousebar.com or call 020 8534 8660 for more information.



Above, the Print House has plenty of outdoor space and is located on the banks of Three Mills Wall river, left. There are plans to hold a Christmas market outside during the festive period



CELEBRATE IN STYLE

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One FREE place in 10 if you book by 26th September and quote WHARF. Rate/space subject to availability at time of booking.

★ CCT Venues' head of marketing Mabel Chung tells Wharfers why they should book with the Canary Wharf stalwart.

■ Tell us about CCT Venues.

We offer a choice of two locations in Canary Wharf – both available for a wide variety of events.

Bank Street is an impressive top floor suite offering panoramic views across London, which can accommodate up to 250 guests and boasts floor-to-ceiling windows, a spacious reception area and contemporary furniture.

The venue also has the Skyline Restaurant, where a team of chefs can provide Michelin standard food.

South Quay comprises a large spacious restaurant with waterfront views and conference suite for up to 200 and simple yet contemporary styling that makes the most of natural light.

■ What are you offering Wharfers for Christmas this year?

We can organise your entire event, whether it's a traditional Christmas lunch with all the trimmings, a Christmas party with dancing until midnight, or some mince pies and mulled wine to finish off a business meeting.

Choose from one of our festive packages, or design your own. We have something to suit every



The top-floor suite at CCT's Bank Street venue dressed and ready for an event

CCT VENUES

Flexibility at heart of Wharf

budget or requirement. For example, £42.50pp will include a three course festive dinner, half a bottle of wine, unlimited still or sparkling water, freshly brewed coffee and mince pies, Christmas decorations and crackers, with exclusive use of a private room.

■ Why should readers hold their party with you?

CCT Venues Plus has a wealth of experience organising events and we'll make sure we understand

your requirements from the outset to ensure we exceed expectations.

We can help organise every detail of your party from live entertainment to personalised guest gifts.

■ Are there any earlybird discounts?

Book by September 30, to receive a 5% discount. Please enquire for more information.

For bookings at CCT's South Quay and Bank Street venues call 020 3588 3700 or go to cctvenues.co.uk.

LOOKING FOR INSPIRATION FOR YOUR CORPORATE CHRISTMAS PARTY NIGHT OR NEXT EVENT!

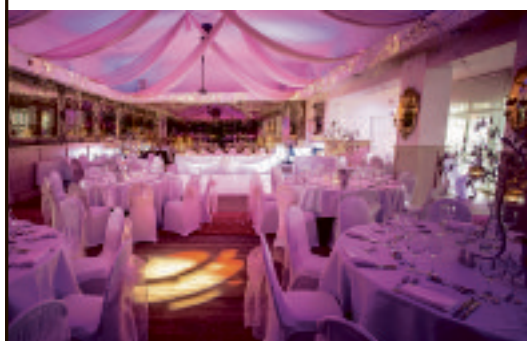


The Kings Oak is perfect for Corporate Hospitality & Christmas Party Nights & has just launched 'ALL INCLUSIVE' Christmas Parties for 2014 festive season

This unique & exciting venue is located in the heart of Epping Forest & surrounded by flora, fauna & wildlife with views over London & home counties.

For businesses in Canary Wharf, West End & The City The Kings Oak offers you the chance to be transported to a Winter Wonderland venue with the WOW factor...

Our dedicated events team can arrange all kinds of additional entertainment tailored to your individual requirements & budget

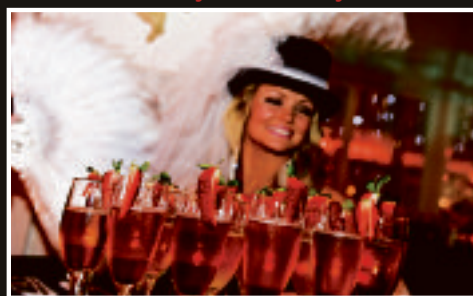


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£40

Friday & Saturday



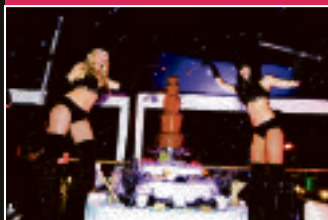
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BOLEYN
HOSPITALITY



"It's a fantastic way to entertain clients or friends, it's an exceptional experience"

Michael Andrews, Boxholder

Focus Party Season

Venue wants to be challenged by guests' ideas

CROWNE PLAZA DOCKLANDS

Events manager is keen to deliver whatever her clients come up with at Royal Docks hotel

Kay Lockett
The Wharf

Flexibility is key when it comes to party planning according to Crowne Plaza London Docklands conference and events manager Raluca Milea.

"I want clients to come to me with ideas of what they want for their Christmas parties," she said.

"We can cater for all budgets and sizes, from hiring one of our private conference rooms for a small fancy dress-themed party or bringing your team to the restaurant to celebrate in style for a black tie ball.

"There are eight modern conference rooms to hire with floor-to-ceiling windows with views of the Royal Docks, The O2 and Canary Wharf.

"Our Docklands suite can fit 200 people where you can make each one of your guests a VIP."

From £29.95pp you can organise a private party with a sit down dinner offering a contemporary but traditional menu such as roast butternut squash soup with toasted sunflower seeds, seared sea bream, bubble and squeak with champagne sauce and, for dessert, tuck into a chocolate tart with Cointreau cherries and clotted cream.

With 12 years' experience working in events Raluca has insight into what is needed to throw a shindig to remember.

She said: "Good food, great music and a little bit of alcohol are the ingredients needed to throw a good party."

To that end, the Crowne Plaza team have a wealth of contacts in the entertainment industry from magicians and comedians to karaoke and DJs to add an extra sparkle to your event.

Raluca added: "With the benefit of hotel facilities, with 210 bedrooms, your guests can stay here after the party if they don't want to travel home. They can also swim off their hangovers in the morning and recover with a cooked breakfast.

"And why not head back to Canary Wharf via the Emirates Air Line, which is right outside."

Confirm a booking before the end of September and one in 10 guest goes free.

Early booking will also allow access to drinks packages including discounted wine and beer buckets filled with six bottles for the price of four.

Go to cpdocklands.co.uk or call 020 7055 2000 for bookings.

10%

Of guests go free at Crowne Plaza if a booking is confirmed before the end of September



The hotel offers a number of party options

RADISSON EDWARDIAN BLU NEW PROVIDENCE WHARF

Get up close to the river

★ *Radisson Edwardian Blu New Providence Wharf business development manager Rebecca Lee tells us what the hotel has on offer over the festive season.*

■ **Tell us about the Radisson Edwardian Blu New Providence Wharf.** The New Providence Wharf Hotel has an amazing backdrop of The O2 and River Thames with floor-to-ceiling windows. It is the ideal destination for a festive feast.

The hotel boasts a tranquil spa, which is a real riverside retreat. For larger groups our

River room can hold up to 60 people for fine dining.

Then, if you want to celebrate and let your hair down, our amazing Ontario foyer area holds up to 180 people. With private bar and DJ options, it's a great place to really roll out the festive cheer.

■ **What are you offering Wharfers for Christmas this year?**

We are offering a wide range of party and private dining options, along with our festive afternoon tea for smaller celebrations.

■ **Why should readers hold their party with you?**

We provide both a unique venue and exceptional service. You cannot sit any nearer to the Thames anywhere else in London.

■ **Are there any earlybird discounts?**

We are offering the organiser of the event a complimentary bedroom if they confirm with us before the end of September. Call 020 7987 6566 or go to radissonblu-edwardian.com for bookings or more information.

KAY LOCKETT



Conference and events manager Raluca Milea says the hotel caters for all budgets and sizes



Why not celebrate with The O2 as a backdrop to your party?

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- Delicious three-course meal
- Dedicated waiting staff

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v Manchester City

Saturday 25 October 2014 - 12:45pm

v Aston Villa

Saturday 8 November 2014 - 3pm

v Newcastle United

Saturday 29 November 2014 - 3pm

v Swansea City

Saturday 6 December 2014 - 3pm

v Leicester City

Saturday 20 December 2014 - 3pm

v Arsenal

Sunday 28 December 2014 - 3pm

v West Bromwich Albion

Thursday 1 January 2015 - 3pm

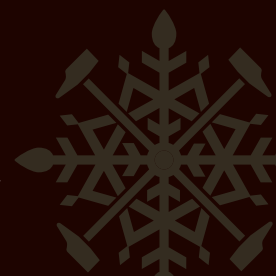


Entertain in an Executive Box over the festive season. Bookings are being taken now for all remaining fixtures.

CALL 0871 091 1811*

hospitality.whufc.com

*Calls to 0871 091 1811 cost 10p per minute plus network extras.
Fixtures subject to change.



Locus Party Season

Football club offers a premium package

WEST HAM UNITED

Deals include match day hospitality with players and West Ham legends

Rob.Virtue
@wharf.co.uk



Left, Phil Parkes chats with Andy Carroll and Kevin Nolan. Above, a table ready at one of West Ham's executive boxes



Fancy corporate entertainment that includes a Premier League football match, chats with stars and a premium dining experience?

West Ham United have a range of different packages, from executive boxes to the Carlsberg Legends Lounge, as well as options for festive celebrations.

Hammers greats, such as FA Cup winner Phil Parkes, keep the fans entertained in the lounges. Speaking

to *The Wharf* on the day of the side's 3-1 win over Liverpool, he said: "We have the guests on stage, such as the chairman David Gold or someone like Trevor Brooking, through to celebrity fans like Russell Brand.

"Today, I've got two first team players in who are currently injured. Andy Carroll and Kevin Nolan. I've been up on stage with them individually but never together. It will be fun because they're both characters, so we can expect a bit of banter.

"It's a great experience. You can see behind the scenes and there's a bit of entertainment.

"We have some fun with the quiz. Some take it very seriously but over all it's just a bit of fun."

Parkes was at West Ham for 11 years as a player and said he was delighted to return in a hospitality role, not least because of the passionate fans.

He said: "I still have a great relationship with the fans. I see a lot of old friends and also make a lot of new

ones behind the scenes. I've always said they are the best fans in the country because they stick by West Ham through thick and thin.

"I came here when we were in the second division and we got promoted after that, but I know when they got relegated the gates went up and when we got relegated again at the end of my career, when Lou Macari came in, the gates went up again.

"There's not many clubs you can say that about."

Package are available on a match by match basis or for the season. Extra benefits for those who take up the season deal include priority for the final season at the Boleyn next year and then the first campaign in the stadium at the Olympic Park.

Boxes start at £195pp plus VAT. Full Christmas fixture details, including home clashes with Arsenal and Leicester are available online.

Call 020 586 8214 for more information or visit hospitality.whufc.com



Join us this festive season and celebrate your Christmas party in style. Situated on the bank of the Three Mills Wall river, the recently converted restaurant and bar is the ideal location for events and private parties.

Christmas lunch and dinner from £30 per person.

To make a booking, please contact info@theprinthousebar.com
www.theprinthousebar.com
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To find out more or book please call 0207 718 0304 or
visit our website: deverevenues.co.uk

Focus Party Season

We plan to be more creative than ever

GREENWICH LONDON There's a party to be found south of the river

Rob.Virtue
@wharf.co.uk

The Greenwich London's general manager Kevin Voss talks about last Christmas and what's coming up this year at the boutique hotel south of the Thames.

■ What's Christmas like there?

We get surprisingly busy during this period, especially with the families of local people visiting.

Last year there was a lot more demand for people staying here than anticipated.

Food and drink did really well. We had decorations, presents around the tree for the children to open. We made a real song and dance about it.

■ What kind of tree did you have?

A member of staff brought one down from Cheshire. It was huge so we had



The view from the hotel's terrace

to chop some off for it to even fit in our double height lobby.

■ Was there a traditional feel to the food?

Yes we had traditional roast turkeys, with veg and pigs in blankets. Mince

pies and mulled wine. This year we'll do things differently. The chefs will be looking to be a bit more creative.

■ Did you have much corporate business?

Yes we did very well. Several groups – Blackheath Rugby Club for example – used the hotel for parties.

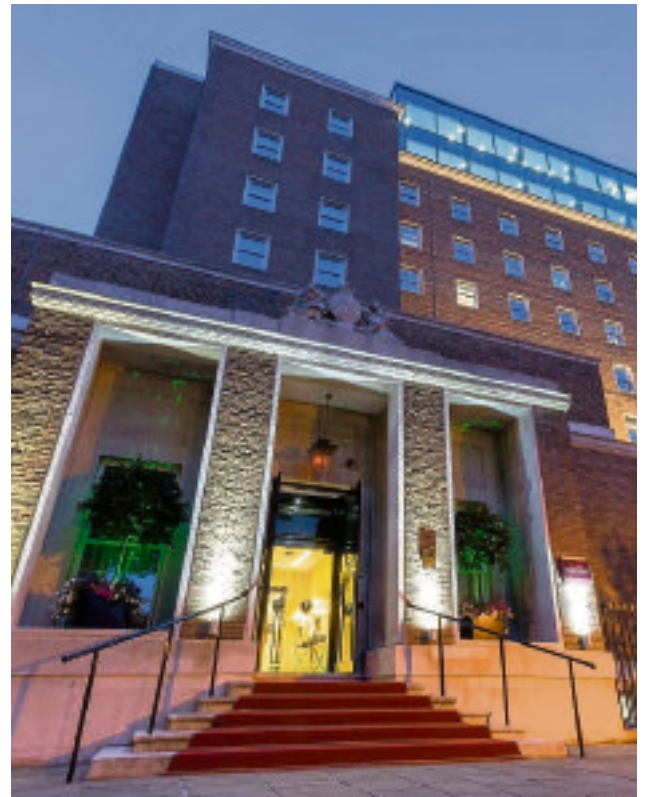
It was a real mix of events from Christmas dinners to group parties. We're flexible on what we can offer.

■ What's Greenwich like at Christmas?

It's great at Christmas time. The market and town centre have a very festive feel to it. It's got a special atmosphere at Christmas.

■ What's this year's package?

Festive party nights start at £29.95pp or £15 for afternoon tea. Christmas lunches cost from £19.95 each. Go to theygreenwichlondon.com.



The Greenwich London Mercure Hotel is near Deptford Bridge DLR

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For bookings call 020 8469 4448

28WEST BAR & GRILL

Wharf's latest hotspot



The restaurant area at 28West, which looks out over the Thames

★ **28West Bar & Grill**
events coordinator
Lucy Fender tells us all
about parties at the venue.

■ Tell us about 28West:

It is a versatile and friendly venue in Westferry Circus that boasts stunning views of the Canary Wharf riverfront. If you're looking for somewhere fun and relaxed then look no further because it is the place to be this festive season.

■ What are you offering Wharf'ers for Christmas this year?

From three-course feasts

to Christmassy canapés, we have got all festive fancies covered.

We've also got drinks packages and warming winter cocktails on offer.

Our little elves are here to create the perfect stress-free environment for all of our guests to enjoy the festive season in style.

Indulge in our seven-item canapé menu, (£17pp) including delights such as Yorkshire puddings stuffed with turkey and cranberry sauce, Arancini balls with black truffle, smoked salmon bellini, cream cheese and sea pearls

and Christmas spiced sticky toffee pudding.

■ Why should readers hold their party with you?

With the latest licence in Canary Wharf the party never ends at 28West – at least until 2am.

■ Are there any earlybird discounts?

Any Christmas booking made by the end of September will receive a free round of Prosecco for guests. Call 020 3757 6664 or go to 28-west.co.uk for bookings.

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Celebrate Christmas at Canary Wharf

Dazzle your clients and colleagues this Christmas with amazing panoramic or waterfront views from our venues in Canary Wharf.

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Focus Party Season

Get more at venue outside capital

LONDON BORDERS

Pay less than London prices at a hotel just about half an hour from Canary Wharf

Rachel.Bishop
@wharf.co.uk

The Kings Oak Hotel, in Epping Forest, has launched a new corporate all-inclusive package for Christmas 2014.

Available Monday to Thursday in December, the deal has been designed to offer a more casual approach to firms' festive celebrations.

For £55pp, guests can munch on barbecue food – including roast turkey, hog roast or veggie baps, with chips and coleslaw. The price also covers selected free drinks all night.

In addition a DJ will play until midnight as standard but guests can request extra entertainment for a fee including a saxophonist, magician, stilt walkers and buff butlers.

Accounts and marketing manager

Carol Ravenhill said: "If people work in Canary Wharf it's nice to go somewhere different for a party night and get away from London."

"The Kings Oak is a stunning venue with our Beach Club Marquee overlooking our 100ft original lido and pool terrace."

"The venue certainly provides the wow factor and you are not paying London prices."

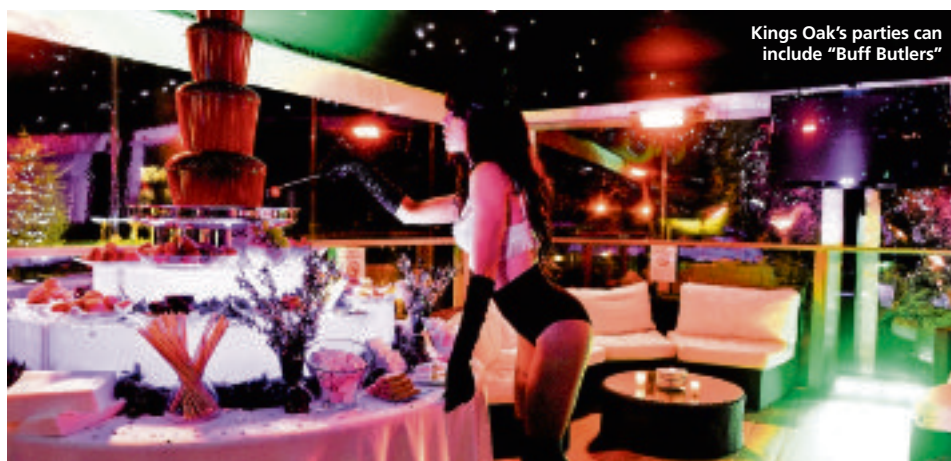
25

Minutes by car or coach to Kings Oak from Canary Wharf or **35 minutes** on the Tube

Friday and Saturday party nights are also available, featuring a three-course meal and various entertainment through until 1am for £40pp but the deal excludes free drinks all night.

Corporate all inclusive packages run Monday to Thursday throughout December from 8pm and cost £55pp.

Go to kingsoakhotel.com for more information.



Kings Oak's parties can include "Buff Butlers"



STAYING OVER

■ Kings Oak have arranged preferential accommodation rates with the Marriott Hotel, Waltham Abbey, which is just off of junction 26 of the M25.

■ Two adults can stay the night and enjoy a full English breakfast in the morning for £90.



DRINK • PLAY • EAT



FESTIVE FEASTS

SHARING CANAPÉS

Warming Winter Cocktails

visit www.28-west.co.uk/christmas for more information

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Where will you raise your glass this Christmas? Sensational spaces in sought-after venues at our stunning riverside hotel come with fabulous food, seamless service and expert consultants to create bespoke celebrations of genuine distinction this festive season.

We put lots of thought into our festive food at our Christmas Parties. For starters it's all freshly prepared using only the finest seasonal ingredients especially sourced for your festive palate. Great food created by foodies for foodies. So, ladies and gentlemen, unfurl your napkins and loosen your belts, dinner is served!

CHRISTMAS PARTY PACKAGE, STARTING FROM £49 PER PERSON

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Focus

Party Season



Guests will dine while aerial performers swing back and forth above their heads



Why best party needs to deliver real wow factor

BEST PARTIES EVER

Firm believes it has come up with the ultimate celebration at Tobacco Dock in Wapping

Rachel Bishop
@wharf.co.uk

Nothing says Christmas like zooming around in a dodgem after a glass of Prosecco (or two), while Can Can dancers and aerial acrobats swing themselves around an 1890s themed Parisian venue.

No? Well that's exactly the point according to Best Parties Ever group sales director Holly Dodgson.

She said: "At Christmas you go to so many events and functions that have twinkly Christmas lights and festive themes.

"We felt if we wanted to provide that real wow factor and give it more character we needed to do something completely different.

"We did have some clients say 'oh it could be any time of year' to us last year though, so we've got a beautifully decorated 20ft Christmas tree in for this year."

Guests walk in to a Parisian street scene at dusk in this year's venue – Tobacco Dock, a Grade II listed former warehouse. There, the firm has recreated the ambience of Montmartre complete with accordionists, caricaturists and



Underfloor dancing: The venue's vaults

trapeze artists. A four-course meal will be laid out for guests, while aerial hoop and silk acts perform overhead and Can Can dancers high kick.

There will be a charity casino and a chance to get on those dodgems or descend the stone steps into the uniquely atmospheric vaults where guests can simply dance the night away.

Holly said: "We hope this year will be the best yet as we've really upgraded our venue and made sure inside it looks really special.

"We have also put a lot into organising our entertainment – as it's such a large dining room, we've made sure to fill all the space with some fantastic acts."

And the company has even thought about its guests' late night snack on the way home – delivering a bacon butty to everyone at the end of the night.

Packages start at £49.50pp, with various dates available from December 6. Go to bestpartiesever.com for bookings.

the Wharfquiz

**Thursday 27th
November 2014
6:30pm arrival
for 7pm start**

£60.00 plus VAT
includes entry, dinner per person and
drinks package per table

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To book a team or for more information
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We can provide the complete package to help make your occasion go smoothly, including a variety of catering options from BBQ, buffet to silver service, flowers, photographer, decorations and planning, we offer expert advice for all your needs to make your day extra special, price start from £600.00 for room hire, menus on request.

The unique nature of the centre makes us an excellent choice of venue, not only for the high level of quality and service, but also as all profits are turned over to the Trust at the end of each financial year, allowing us to put back into the local community.

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The Party

Enter the intoxicating and vivid world of 1890's Paris. Our entertainers welcome you into a Parisian street scene at dusk where the Montmartre ambience is fully recreated with accordionists, caricaturists, trapeze artists and Can Can dancers.

Follow your fellow revellers into the exotic and sumptuous Parisian nightlife, with rich velvet drapes and lavish lighting, whilst enjoying the canapé reception. As you enjoy a fabulous four course dinner, admire the enchanting razzle-dazzle with exquisite sets, mesmerising aerial hoop acts, extravagant costumes, aerial silks finale and the famous Can Can.

Later, enjoy the glamorous casino, jump on our dodgems or descend the stone steps into the uniquely atmospheric vaults where you can dance the night away!

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The Package

Ticket prices include:

- Spectacular theming and scenery
- Drinks and canapé reception
- Live entertainment with trapeze artist
- Cabaret performers and aerial acrobats
- Accordionists and Can Can dancers
- Superb four course dinner and Christmas crackers
- Charity casino including roulette and blackjack
- Indoor dodgems (a small charge applies)
- Professional photographer (a small charge applies)
- State-of-the-art disco with intelligent lighting
- Starlit ceilings and professional set lighting
- Full event management and on-site security
- Free cloakroom and Survivors Breakfast!

Dress code: smart dress - no jeans or trainers

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